

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Previously Presented): A process for the manufacture of an outer membrane vesicle preparation from a bacterium, wherein the bacterial membrane is disrupted substantially in the absence of deoxycholate detergent to produce the outer membrane vesicle preparation and the bacterium is *N. meningitidis* or *N. gonorrhoeae* and overexpresses TbpA, Transferrin binding protein A, relative to the corresponding wild-type strain.

Claim 2 (Original): The process of claim 1, wherein the bacterial membrane is disrupted substantially in the absence of any detergent.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The process of claim 1, comprising the following basic steps: (a) disrupting the bacterial membrane in the substantial absence of detergent; (b) centrifuging the composition from step (a) to separate the outer membrane vesicles from treated cells and cell debris, and collecting the supernatant; (c) performing a high speed centrifugation of the supernatant from step (b) and collecting the outer membrane vesicles in a pellet; (d) re-dispersing the pellet from step (c) in a buffer; (e) performing a second high speed centrifugation in accordance with step (c), collecting the outer membrane vesicles in a pellet; (f) re-dispersing the pellet from step (e) in an aqueous medium.

Claim 4 (Original): The process of claim 3, further comprising the following steps: (g) performing sterile filtration through at least two filters of decreasing pore size of the re-dispersed composition from step (f); and (h) optionally including the composition from step (g) in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and/or adjuvant composition.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The process of claim 3, wherein step (b) comprises centrifugation at around 5000-10000 g for up to 1 hour, and steps (c) and (e) comprise centrifugation at around 35000-100000 g for up to 2 hours.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The process of claim 2, wherein the bacterial membrane is disrupted by sonication, homogenisation, microfluidisation, cavitation, osmotic shock, grinding, French press, blending, or any other physical technique.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The process of claim 3, wherein the buffer used in step (d) and/or in step (f) is a Tris buffer, a phosphate buffer, or a histidine buffer.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) The process of claim 4, wherein step (g) ends with a filter of pore-size of about 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 9–10 (Cancelled).

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The process of claim 3, wherein the *N. meningitidis* is from serogroup B.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The process of claim 2, further comprising the step of formulating an immunologically effective amount of the [[OMVs]] outer membrane vesicle preparation as an immunogenic composition.

Claim 13 (Withdrawn): An OMV composition obtainable by the process of claim 3.

Claim 14 (Withdrawn): A *Neisseria meningitides* vesicle composition, characterised in that the vesicles include (i) NspA protein, (ii) `287` protein and (iii) `741` protein.

Claim 15 (Withdrawn): The composition of claim 13 or claim 14, wherein the composition is sterile and/or pyrogen-free and/or buffered at a pH of between 6.0 and 7.0.

Claim 16 (Withdrawn): The composition of any one of claims 13 to 15 for use as a medicament.

Claim 17 (Withdrawn): A method of raising an immune response in a patient, comprising administering to a patient a composition of any one of claims 13 to 15.

Claim 18 (Withdrawn): The use of an outer membrane vesicle of any one of claims 13 to 15 in the manufacture of a medicament for raising an immune response in an patient.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The process of claim 11, wherein the bacterium is *Neisseria meningitides* serogroup B strain H44/76.